

JPRS-TND-92-023
16 JULY 1992



JPRS Report

Proliferation Issues

PROLIFERATION ISSUES

JPRS-TND-92-023

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16 July 1992

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[This report contains foreign media information on

Sea-Based Missile-Launching Drill Held 22 Jun

HK2806052592 Haikou Hainan People's Radio
Network in Mandarin 2300 GMT 27 Jun 92

[Text] The South China Sea Fleet conducted a large-scale sea-based missile-launching drill on 22 June. Major General Xu Zhengzhong, deputy commander of the South China Sea Fleet; Major General (Liu Jinshan), deputy chief of staff of the fleet; Major General (Bao Hucai), commander of the Yulin base; Major General (Jian Guoxing), political commissar; Major General Liu Weidong, deputy political commissar; and other leaders directed the drill on the spot.

(Li Zhimin), standing committee member of the provincial party committee; (Liu Xizhen), director of the provincial labor and personnel department; (Liu Yongqi), secretary of Sanya City; Sanya Mayor (Wang Yongchun); and other leaders, and Chen Yufeng, assistant manager of the Xiwen Company, and other enterprise officials totaling 46 persons watched the missile-launching drill.

The purpose of the current large-scale sea-based missile-launching drill is to improve the Army's training qualities, test the training results of the missile troops, and genuinely give full play to the Army's role of escorting reform and opening up.

In the course of the missile-launching drill, the fleet leaders carried out command and conducted the ground-sea-air coordination drill strictly according to the plan,

which is aimed at training the organization and command capabilities of commanders and quick reaction of the troops under complicated conditions; enabling the troops to get in advance the target in the complicated sea area, quickly find the position of the target, and rapidly launch the missile to hit the target; and improving the combined operation effectiveness of the troops under modern conditions.

Indigenous Nuclear Power Plant To Operate Fully

HK1007043292 Hong Kong AFP in English 0357 GMT
10 Jul 92

[By Philippe Massonnet]

[Excerpt] Qinshan, China, July 10 (AFP)—China's first indigenous nuclear power plant, capable of generating 300 megawatts of electricity, will be running at 100 percent capacity in the coming days, marking the start of a new energy policy.

The slogan "safety first" is omnipresent at the plant on Hangzhou Bay, 90 kilometers (60 miles) from Shanghai. It can be seen in giant red letters on the walls, and heard from the lips of management.

"All inspections have concluded that our plant is perfectly safe," said vice director Zhang Huailin in a calm but firm voice.

The International Atomic Energy Agency sent two inspection missions to Qinshan, in 1989 and 1991. "Their final report indicated that the plant is of high quality," Zhang said. [passage omitted]

JAPAN

Objections to Plutonium Shipments Rejected

OW0907110292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1050 GMT
9 Jul 92

[Text] Tokyo, July 9 KYODO—Japan does not plan to obtain permission for shipments of plutonium that may travel within the 200-mile economic zone of other nations, a Foreign Ministry official said Thursday.

The comment followed South Africa statement earlier this week objecting to Japanese ships carrying plutonium through waters within its 200-mile offshore boundary.

"Basically, Japanese transport ships will make the voyage over 200 miles away from the coast, so I don't think there will be any problem," said the official, who asked to remain anonymous for security reasons.

The official said that Japan plans to explain to Pretoria that it is not legally required to obtain permission, and will also redouble its efforts to reassure South Africa of the safety of the shipments.

This fall, Japan plans to start transporting plutonium from France and Britain back to Japan. The plutonium will have been reprocessed in those nations from Japan's spent nuclear fuel.

Earlier this week South Africa became the first country along the possible shipping routes to express reservations about shipments passing through its waters, the official said.

"Generally speaking, we have basic understanding of countries concerned except for South Africa," he said.

Japan has not yet settled on a route, but it has decided to explain its safety precautions to some 100 coastal countries after the environmental group Greenpeace international urged governments to deny passage of the hazardous cargo.

Japan maintains that the casks used for housing the plutonium meet safety standards specified by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The Foreign Ministry official said the shipments would not make port calls or enter the nations' 12-mile territorial zone.

NORTH KOREA

Accord With IAEA on Routine Nuclear Inspection

SK1007093792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0922 GMT
10 Jul 92

[Text] Seoul, July 10 (OANA-YONHAP)—North Korea put into effect Friday an agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that paved the way for routine inspection on its nuclear materials and facilities.

The subsidiary arrangement, a post-agreement to the nuclear safeguards accord in force from April 10, went into effect immediately after the North Korean Embassy in Vienna notified the IAEA headquarters that it will accept the text worked out between Pyongyang and the agency, Foreign Ministry officials here said.

But, North Korea is yet to approve the facility attachment that determines which installations to include in the routine inspection and how long and often the inspection should be, the officials said.

Pyongyang reported 16 nuclear-related facilities to the IAEA, including four core installations and parts that are key to suspicions against its nuclear arms development program—its 5 megawatt nuclear reactor, radiochemical laboratory which IAEA says will turn into reprocessing plant once completed, nuclear fuel rod and sub-critical facilities.

The IAEA revised its regulations at last month's Board of Governors' meeting, making it mandatory for its members to report all nuclear-related facilities at least 180 days before they are built.

Former regulations was more lax, requiring a report just 60 days before the installation goes into operation.

Under the revised rule, the four facilities in question would have to be included in the facility attachment, officials said.

North Korea has not yet answered whether it will follow the former or revised regulations, and routine inspection will not begin until this decision is made, they said.

The ad hoc inspection team, currently on its second trip in North Korea, will have to approve the facility attachment to make sure that none of the listed installations require further ad hoc inspection, they said.

But, the IAEA can start routine inspection on agreed facilities first, according to the officials.

The IAEA has the final say on when to start the routine inspection.

BULGARIA

Trucks Carry 'Chemical Warfare' Cargo to Iraq

AU0107172492 Sofia BTA in English 1705 GMT
1 Jul 92

[Text] Burgas, July 1 (BTA)—Three truck drivers of the Somat Company have been hospitalized. One of them has sustained severe injuries, suffering from mental and blood circulation disorders and crumbling teeth.

According to the Burgas branch of a Bulgarian environmentalist organization, Ecoglasnost, the drivers had been affected by the dangerous toxic cargo they had been transporting without being aware of it. The Somat long-haul trucks based in Sofia and Burgas have been carrying

organophosphorous substances and chemicals intended for the production of chemical warfare agents from Western Europe to Iraq for over a year and a half now, the Burgas branch of Ecoglasnost claims. The drivers have slept in the trucks' cabins in immediate proximity to the cargo, which allegedly consisted of highly toxic radioactive substances.

Ecoglasnost supporters say the deal had been made between the Bulgarian company and Mr. Bozhidar Bozhilov, a Bulgarian living in Vienna who owns a forwarding company.

Ecoglasnost warned that the trucks carrying toxic substances to Iraq are loaded with citrus fruits and food on their way back to Bulgaria.

ARGENTINA

Nuclear Reactor Reactivated After 17 Years

PY1007012492 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
1240 GMT 7 Jul 92

[Text] Cordoba, 7 Jul (TELAM)—The RA-10 nuclear reactor intended for research and training purposes was operated again 17 years after it was completely deactivated. The reactor is at the facilities of the Mathematics, Physics, and Natural Science School of Cordoba National University.

The reactor that was dedicated in 1971 went into operation after the work conducted by 10 experts from the National Commission for Atomic Energy [CNEA]. It operated until 1975, when its nucleus was removed and sent to Peru in the sale of nuclear technology to that country.

University authorities reported the reactor will be used for research and training purposes and to render services to the official and private sectors, including the irradiation of foods and the sterilization of medical instruments, among others.

BRAZIL

Nuclear Agency Restricts Nuclear Vessels

PY0207005892 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network
in Portuguese 2200 GMT 1 Jul 92

[Text] Starting today, nuclear vessels and submarines cannot enter Brazil without authorization. This decision is part of new National Commission for Nuclear Energy, CNEN, regulations that also affect the Brazilian Navy.

From now on, all nuclear vessels and submarines must present a series of documents regarding radioactivity protection and nuclear security 90 days before entering Brazilian ports and bays. The documents must include plans for a nuclear emergency and for the vessel's operation in port. According to CNEN President Jose Luiz Santana de Carvalho, submarines will have to disconnect their nuclear power in order to enter Brazilian territory. In emergencies, vessels will be immediately towed outside ports and bays. Santana added that the new regulation forbids the disposal of nuclear wastes in national waters, which was permitted by previous legislation approved in 1971:

[Begin recording] Now it will be completely forbidden to dispose of any radioactive materials from vessel reactors or ships such as nuclear submarines in Brazilian waters.
[end recording]

The rule regulating the use of naval nuclear reactors in Brazilian waters complements the Tlatelolco Treaty forbidding the transportation of nuclear weapons in Latin America.

Germany Agrees To Finance Angra-2 Nuclear Plant

PY1007005292 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network
in Portuguese 2200 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Text] The Angra-2 nuclear plant in Rio de Janeiro will be finished by 1997. This will be possible thanks to a financial agreement with Germany.

The Mines and Energy Press Advisory Department in Brasilia has reported that Minister Pratini de Moraes reached an agreement on 9 July with Germany to finance the finishing of the Angra-2 nuclear plant with \$860 million.

A consortium of German financial institutions will be in charge of the financing. The resources will be divided in two parts: the first is \$580 million that already has been provided for since the signing of the nuclear agreement in 1975, and the second is \$280 million that was negotiated during the minister's visit. The Brazilian Government will contribute the rest in cruzeiros, amounting to some \$640 million.

The ministerial Press Advisory Department added that work on Angra-2 will resume this year, which will allow the creation of 10,000 jobs. The nuclear plant must be finished by 1997.

CUBA

Juragua Nuclear Power Station Near Completion

PA0207044192 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish
0000 GMT 2 Jul 92

[Text] Jorge (Petinov), press chief for the Nuclear Energy Information Center, stated in Havana that after 12 years of existence, the Cuban nuclear program is showing concrete and satisfactory results that justify continuing the program.

According to (Petinov), the atom has become an efficient worker in every aspect of everyday Cuban life as well as in other important branches such as medicine, agriculture, mining, and industry. The application of nuclear energy is evident despite the serious economic limitations Cuba is currently undergoing.

The nuclear affairs executive secretariat official pointed out that the public health system was the first user of the atom. Several provincial medical institutions currently use gamma chambers for diagnostic and evaluations purposes.

Referring to nuclear energy, he also indicated that the construction of the Juragua nuclear power station in Cienfuegos continues on schedule. The construction of the project is approximately 90 percent complete, which means the project is progressing at a normal pace.

INDIA

Rao Briefs House on Nuclear Talks in Japan

BK0907092092 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 0830 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Text] The prime minister told the Rajya Sabha today that the question of proliferation of nuclear weapons came up in his talks with the Japanese prime minister during his recent visit to that country. Mr. Narasimha Rao said he told Mr. Miyazawa that there is no change in India's stand on the NPT [Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty] in the post-cold war context. Replying to questions in the house, Mr. Rao said in addition to the fact that the treaty is discriminatory, it should be coming up for review in 1995. Global changes are taking place and the coming review of the NPT may not be the same as the previous ones. Therefore, there is no point in India giving any assurance to any country on the signing of the treaty, he said.

Mr. Narasimha Rao clarified that there is no pressure of any kind from the Japanese Government for signing the NPT. The prime minister said he has clarified this in his press conference at the end of his visit to Japan.

AEC Chairman on Plans for Heavy Water Reactor

92WP0251A Madras THE HINDU in English
30 May 92 p 4

[Text] Coimbatore, May 29. The Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission [AEC], Mr. P.K. Iyengar, said today that Koodankulam in Tamil Nadu was still a good site for the establishment of a nuclear power station.

Mr. Iyengar, who is here on a private visit, told this reporter that in the absence of any external assistance for such a station at Koodankulam, the Commission would build its own 500 MWe Heavy Water Reactor (HWR). But, resource crunch was the major constraint.

The AEC might think of generating the resources locally as well as market borrowings. Some planning was being done in this regard. As of now, external assistance for any nuclear power programme was unlikely because the countries concerned were fully aware of the constraints being put on India for projects involving high technology in atomic energy, defence and space. "At this juncture, it is necessary to rededicate ourselves to develop indigenous capability in all our high technology areas like computer electronics, new materials and defence related items," he said.

Referring to the ongoing nuclear projects, he said work was in progress for the plants planned at Kaiga in Karnataka, Tarapur and in Rajasthan which would in all provide an additional 3,000 MWe. Two 220 MWe atomic power stations were under construction at Kakrapar in Gujarat—the first would start operating next month and the second was expected to achieve criticality a year later.

Missile Production Program To Begin 1993

BK0907073892 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network
in English 1600 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Excerpts] The new agricultural policy is likely to be tabled in parliament during the current session. This was disclosed by the agriculture minister, Mr. Balram Jakhar, while addressing the economic editors conference which concluded in New Delhi today. [passage omitted]

Discussing the defense sector, the minister of state for defense, Mr. Krishnakumar told the editors that production of Prithvi [surface-to-surface missile with range of 250 km] and Trishul [surface-to-air missile with 12 km range] missiles will start next year, while Akash [surface-to-air] and Naag [anti-tank] missiles will go into production by 1995. He said efforts are on to increase exports and also to diversify production of ordnance factories so that capacity utilization improves.

IRAN

Commentary Denies Nuclear Weapons Development

LD0807191492 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0957 GMT
8 Jul 92

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] In a letter to the UN secretary general yesterday Kamal Kharrazi, Iran's permanent envoy to the United Nations, described reports and propaganda on Iranian efforts to gain access to nuclear weapons as baseless and announced the Islamic Republic of Iran's full readiness to cooperate with the United Nations to pursue the Iranian-initiated plan of comprehensive nuclear disarmament. We point out that Iran is one of the signatories of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and is committed to it.

The [nonproliferation] treaty calls on all countries of the world to accept a legal undertaking not to implement plans leading to the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The treaty divides world countries into two groups: Either they sign the treaty and join the ranks of the world's nonnuclear [as heard] countries, or they refuse to sign the treaty and are then considered as a nuclear country and subsequently accept all the dangers of such a situation.

The treaty also stresses that the nuclear countries should consider themselves responsible for carrying out their commitments and should prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the nonnuclear countries.

Iran, on the other hand, actively cooperates with the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. The Islamic Republic continues its peaceful nuclear research work under the IAEA's supervision. IAEA inspectors have repeatedly visited Iran's nuclear research centers

and their last inspection was on the 30 Bahman 1370 [19 February 1992]. During this inspection of Iran's nuclear research centers, as on previous occasions, the agency's inspection team did not produce any evidence corroborating allegations by the mass media. This was at a time when Iran itself was the biggest victim of chemical weapons and weapons of mass destruction in the course of the imposed [Iran-Iraq] war.

Iraq, a signatory of the Geneva Protocol of 1975, which also signed the existing Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in 1968, on the one hand violated all of its commitments in the aggression against Iran; and on the other hand those countries which possessed chemical and nuclear weapons assisted Iraq to gain access to chemical weapons and weapons of mass destruction.

Most countries of the world are trying to utilize nuclear energy for purposes other than military applications; and Iran is no exception to this rule. The utilization of nuclear energy in the military for constructing nuclear weapons is only one of its many applications. During the war against Iraq, the Islamic Republic clearly proved that it has no need to deploy such weapons, and it can defend its territorial integrity without having to use such weapons.

The only objective of reports and propaganda alleging that Iran is striving to gain access to nuclear weapons is to put pressure on Iran. The best proof of this claim is Israel, which has refused to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. It possesses the biggest arsenal of nuclear weapons now. While pursuing extensive programs of uranium enrichment, Israel possesses nuclear weapons; and no doubt the Zionist regime's nuclear programs, being pursued outside the framework of international regulations, are considered a very serious threat to security and stability of the region and the world. [passage omitted]

IRAQ

UN Suspects Hiding of Ballistic Missile Data

NC0907111692 Paris AFP in English 1104 GMT
9 Jul 92

[Report by Farouk Choukri]

[Excerpt] Baghdad, July 9 (AFP) - Iraq categorically refused to allow weapons inspectors to search its Agriculture Ministry on Thursday despite a U.N. deadline and last ditch talks aimed at ending the deadlock.

Agriculture Minister 'Adb-al-Wahhab Mahmud al-Sabbagh told a news conference that Iraq would not authorize the search of a "civilian ministry which has nothing to do with the United Nations and its resolutions." He accused the United Nations of being a tool of the United States and said that the "Bush administration is using international terrorism against Iraq."

A team of 16 weapons inspectors have maintained a round-the-clock vigil outside the Agriculture Ministry since Sunday morning.

U.N. and Iraqi officials were to have a second round of talks on Thursday aimed at ending the standoff, informed Iraqi sources said. An apparently fruitless first round was held late Wednesday between Douglas Englund, regional head of the U.N. special commission overseeing the destruction of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, and Iraq's Husam Muhammad Amin, who accompanies the weapons inspectors on their missions. No details were given of the hour-long meeting. The commission's head Rolf Ekeus set Thursday as the deadline for Baghdad to allow the search to go ahead. He said at U.N. Headquarters in New York that Englund had been instructed not to negotiate given that under Security Council resolutions Baghdad was bound to allow access to any place designated by the inspection commission. The inspection team suspects the ministry contains data on ballistic missiles capable of delivering chemical and nuclear payloads and details on Iraq's foreign suppliers. [passage omitted]

ISRAEL

Reserve General Urges Changing Nuclear Policy

TA0907143892 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
9 Jul 92 p 10

[Report by Aharon Klein]

[Text] Reserve Brigadier General Aharon Yariv said yesterday that the Israeli Government should consider changing its policy governing statements on the nuclear issue. Yariv was addressing a military correspondents' news conference held by the Jaffe Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University on the occasion of the publication of its annual report covering the years of 1990-1991.

Israel's existence is not threatened in the immediate future or in the short range, Yariv said. There is a potential threat from Syria, Iraq, and Islamic fundamentalism. Syria, which is a partner to the peace process, has the ability to surprise Israel and launch a sudden attack. Iraq is making every effort to regain the power it had before the Gulf war. "As long as Saddam is in power, he will not rest until he regains his full strength," he said. Regarding the threat posed by Islamic fundamentalism, Yariv maintained that it cannot be said that it is "sweeping" us. The Arab countries are making efforts to curb it.

The arms race continues in full force, Yariv said. "In 1991, the United States alone sold Middle East countries some \$16 billion worth of weapons." Iran, Iraq, Syria, Libya, and Algeria have been trying to attain nuclear ability, with Algeria being the closest to it.

The more momentum the peace process gathers, the more the race for nuclear arms control will develop.

Arms control talks, Yariv said, will produce harsh disputes: Each country will claim the need to defend itself and will argue that its very existence is at stake. According to him, there is no way to prevent the development of nuclear weapons through the peace talks. Yariv added that Israel should reconsider changing its policy governing statements on the nuclear issue, which so far has been summed up in the announcement that it would not be the first to introduce nuclear arms into the region. "This change should be made carefully and gradually," he said.

On the other hand, Professor Shlomo Gazit maintained that new declarations would be of little value because the Arab countries already believe that Israel owns such weapons. "They need no reinforcement of their belief that Israel has nuclear capability."

Dr. Yosi Alper told the reporters that Israel must face the refugee problem, and that it cannot ignore as the previous government did. "The refugee problem is the root of the Palestinian problem. Israel should address it and work to solve it." According to him, Israel should attend the discussions of the multilateral committee on refugees, where it should bring up the need for the Arab countries to take part in the rehabilitation of refugees.

Alper also noted that the Gulf war made the world realize that the need to promote the Middle East peace process between Israel and the Arab countries is not less urgent than the Palestinian problem.

Prof. Gazit referred to the growing strength of the United Nations as an influential and determining factor in the international arena. The United Nations' strength grew after the USSR dissolved, and last year it imposed sanctions on Iraq, Libya, and Yugoslavia. In the future, Israel may be a target of such sanctions. "The United States can no longer dictate to the United Nations, and it must comply with pressures from UN member countries. If, for example, following a major terrorist attack, Israel should decide on a massive expulsion of Palestinians, it might be threatened with UN sanctions. The same might follow a provocative settlement act or a military operation in Lebanon."

Referring to the same issue, Dr. Dore Gold said that the U.S. Administration holds two attitudes toward the United Nations. The State Department under James Baker maintains that, in the event of war, any U.S. move must be made in an international framework under the UN umbrella, as was the case in the war against Iraq. On the other hand, Defense Secretary Richard Cheney believes that the United States should rely on its own power and might, and prevent the occurrence of power centers that counter its status as a superpower—even among its allies.

The Arab countries, especially Saudi Arabia, continue procuring weapons, Prof. Ze'ev Eytan said. As could be expected, the two countries most damaged by the Gulf war were Iraq and Kuwait.

—Iraq's Saddam Husayn lost nearly half his army, but he still is a dangerous foe. "If war breaks out in the region, he will send troops. Though they will be fewer than he has sent in the past, he is still able to send troops."

—Kuwait lost its Navy, but it is investing billions of dollars in renewed procurement.

—Saudi Arabia exhibits the extreme attitude in the arms race, investing enormous sums in arming itself. It now has 260 planes, compared with 220 in 1990, and an additional 150 tanks.

—Iran is modeling its Army on that of the shah's era. It is buying high-quality weapons, though not in giant deals. It mainly buys Russian-made weapons such as T-72 tanks and Sukhoi-24 and MiG-29 planes.

—Egypt has not enlarged its Army, but it is constantly modernizing it. Egypt will soon start assembling the new U.S. M-1 tank, and its Air Force is about to receive 24 Apache helicopters, and Patriot missile batteries. Its Navy will receive two submarines that will be built in Germany with U.S. funds.

—Israel, according to the report, has not expanded its Army, but continues modernizing it.

Shaposhnikov Addresses News Conference**On Role of Armed Forces***LD0807132192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1244 GMT 8 Jul 92**[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]*

[Excerpts] Moscow July 8 TASS—The basic functions of the main command of the CIS Armed Forces will include single control and centralized management of strategic nuclear arms, coordination of military doctrines and military reforms of CIS countries, settling of armed conflicts both inside the Commonwealth on along its borders. A special structure headed by deputy CIS Commander-in-Chief Boris Pyankov will be in charge of fulfilling the latter task. Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, the CIS commander-in-chief, said at a press conference on Wednesday. [passage omitted]

The Council of Defence Ministers will have a committee on coordinating nuclear strategy and a secretariat. The strategic forces command will unite strategic missile forces, air and sea-based strategic forces, space defence, the management in charge of nuclear weapons, and strategic intelligence. [passage omitted]

More On Strategic Forces*PM0907113092 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 9 Jul 92 p 1*

[Report by correspondent Lieutenant Colonel A. Dokuchayev on 8 July at Moscow press conference by Marshal of Aviation Ye. Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces: "Commonwealth Joint Armed Forces Will Live On. Marshal of Aviation Ye. Shaposhnikov Believes"]

[Excerpts] It is well known that a session of the Council of Heads of State of the Commonwealth was held in Moscow 6 July. Yesterday Marshal of Aviation Ye. Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces, held a press conference at 41, Leningrad Prospekt. The meeting of heads of state, he said, was characterized by a constructive and dynamic approach. Six documents were signed on military matters.

Among the most important is the agreement on the component parts of missile early warning systems and space monitoring [kontrol kosmicheskogo prostranstva] systems. It amounts to the following. The facilities comprising these systems are the property of the republics in which they are located, but they fulfill a common goal. There is nothing so terrible about the fact that Moldova did not sign the document, because it has no missile early warning stations on its territory, but there is such a station in Azerbaijan—near Mingechaur. What is to be done about that now? What about the station in Latvia? Marshal Shaposhnikov expressed the view that Russia, as the USSR's successor in the strategic arms sphere, must enter into a talks process with the sovereign

republics and resolve the questions that have arisen. An agreement on the air defense system was signed. [passage omitted]

The marshal of aviation outlined the structure of the Commonwealth military system. The Main Command is subordinate to the Council of Heads of State. There will also be a collegial organ—the Council of Defense Ministers. It will hold sessions as necessary, or once every two or three months. A committee for the coordination of nuclear strategy and a secretariat are to be set up under the Council of Defense Ministers. Then there is the Strategic Forces command, to which the nuclear triad is subordinate, and then the directorate responsible for the maintenance of nuclear weapons, and the strategic support organs. [passage omitted]

U.S.-Russian Nuclear Reduction 'Unprecedented'*92UM1177A Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 18 Jun 92 p 1*

[Article by Yuriy Leonov: "Yeltsin and Bush Have Made Their Meeting Historic: An Unprecedented Reduction in the Nuclear Arsenals of the Two Biggest Nuclear Powers Has Been Announced"]

[Text] By the start of the 21st century—by the year 2003 or 2000 even—the total number of warheads in the arsenals of Moscow and Washington will have been reduced from 21,000 to 6,000-7,000 weapons. This was announced in Washington in a joint statement by U.S. President George Bush and Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation. In the period leading up to the year 2003 or the year 2000 (the shortening of the timeframe is connected with Russia being rendered the corresponding assistance on the part of the United States) our countries will reduce the number of warheads in their nuclear arsenals to 3,000-3,500 per side, and each of them will itself here determine the structure of its forces within the said limits. As a result of a two-stage reduction ground-based intercontinental ballistic missiles with separating warheads (MIRV'd ICBM's) will be eliminated entirely, and a cap of 1,700-1,750 warheads is established for ballistic missiles on submarines (SLBM's). The presidents intend shortly putting the agreements which have been reached down on paper, signing a brief document, and presenting it for consideration and ratification to the legislative bodies of Russia and the United States.

Commenting on the new character of bilateral relations with the United States, President Yeltsin emphasized: "We will not fight one another. We are switching to a path of partnership and friendship, and these relations will be enshrined in a special charter." This charter, together with a sizable package of other Russian-American documents, was signed on Wednesday by the Russian and American presidents in the White House. During the negotiations, the presidents adopted a decision on the creation at a high level of a group for the practical implementation, in contact with allies and

other interested countries, of measures pertaining to the formulation and realization of a concept of a global system of protection against limited strikes employing ballistic missiles.

The disarmament accords which have been reached, which Yeltsin and Bush announced in a joint statement, impart a truly historic character to the first Russian-American summit. Such is the opinion not only of the participants in the top-level negotiations but also of representatives of the administration of both countries, whence comments on the first impressive results of the meeting in Washington are coming.

A spokesman for the head of the British Government welcomed "the success of this meeting, which has far-reaching consequences," as he addressed journalists at the prime minister's London residence. A similar statement was made in Tokyo on behalf of the Japanese Government by Koichi Kato, general secretary of the Japanese Cabinet, who pointed out that the Russian-American accord, which had been reached under conditions of the end of the "cold war" within an extremely short space of time, was of an epoch-making nature. "The present accord has considerably exceeded our expectations," Kato acknowledged.

The joint statement of the Russian and American presidents has evoked considerable argument in parliamentary and military circles of Russia. Parliament is of the opinion that whereas fulfillment of START signed by Gorbachev and Bush is possible, albeit attended by certain financial difficulties, a more radical reduction in nuclear arsenals could prove questionable on account of Russia's lack of resources. In Russian military circles, on the other hand, there is particular uncertainty concerning the extent to which the reductions declared by the presidents have been thought out.

One way or another it is obvious that regardless of the attitude toward the Russian-American disarmament accords achieved at the summit meeting, the joint statement of Yeltsin and Bush has not only become the main event of the summit, which concludes today, but is also in a sense a fateful landmark on the path leading away from the dangerous nuclear confrontation of the two states and toward a stable and secure world, responsibility for the future of which the great democratic powers are prepared to share. It is to this category that America is disposed to attribute Yeltsin's Russia. President Bush, incidentally, compared the Russian leader with Peter the Great, who helped Russia understand itself anew, terming Yeltsin the first leader in the history of our country whose power is based not on a confluence of historical circumstances but on a democratic mandate.

U.S. 'Uranium War' Against Russia Viewed

PM0207133392 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS FAX
DIGEST in English 30 Jun 92

[Article by Vladimir Orlov: "U.S. Uranium War Against Russia"]

[Text] In late 1991, the American labour unions and uranium manufacturers complained about the USSR having snapped up \$15.8 million in profits in 1990 alone and that the figure was rapidly increasing thereby threatening the U.S. uranium mines with total ruin. They charged the USSR with exporting uranium at dumping prices and demanded a trial. The court examination attended by the six uranium producing countries of the Commonwealth (Russia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan) did take place. Russia will have to pay import duties of 115.85

. The final verdict will be delivered on August 11. This would at least double the price of Russian uranium. MN file: Russia accounts for more than 45

of the world's uranium and uses a centrifugal technology of enrichment which is unequalled anywhere in the world. In 1991 alone, exports of uranium fetched Russia more than \$500 million. But, Russia's share in the world exports of enriched uranium set by the IAEA is nowhere higher than 7

although the country could already now supply one in every four tons on the world market. The blow dealt by the U.S. at one of the few areas that constitute a legitimate pride of Russian exporters primarily affects Russia because it is in Russia that the corporation Techsnabexport, known as Tenex in the West, is headquartered. This is a very potent company that, in a matter of several years, managed to build an edge on its West European and American competitors. Tenex was and remains the sole exporter of enriched uranium from the USSR and now from Russia. Founded 30 years ago, the company is at home on the world market. When the huge uranium reserves proved unnecessary for defense purposes, and nuclear material for bombs was enough to last many years, the decision was made at the top to expand exports of low-cost uranium to the West. Russia played by the rules, albeit imprudently. Dumping is selling a product at a price below the cost of production. The falling rouble and the plunging living standards made the cost for recovery and enrichment of uranium lower than in the rest in the world. The rouble rate against the dollar covers all expenses and turns uranium into one of the most profitable commodities. The realization that he is right enables Tenex's Vice-President Arkady Chuvina to counter with a shade of irony: "Who prevents our partners (the US—V.O.) from producing uranium as efficiently?" According to the U.S. Department of Energy, the American uranium industry is unviable commercially. Local uranium ore is inferior to either Australian or Canadian. Its enrichment plants use obsolete technology. 4,000 employees in the industry face dismissal. But the Department of Energy pays \$3.3 million to Washington-based law firms to try to stop Russia's uranium intervention. But the affair does not end there. A number of long-term contracts that the department signed with its customers abroad terminate in a couple of years (the price of uranium under these contracts is ten times that of short-term contracts). Demand for uranium is expected to grow. Urenco and

Cogema (France) plan to exploit this opportunity to try to elbow the U.S. from the European and Asian markets and to expand their own participation in the U.S. market. Russia is the odd man out. In the meantime, it is ready to earn already next year at least \$1 billion from uranium sales. The Russian idea to set up a uranium pool like OPEC so far has no backing in the U.S. It rather prefers to reserve the smallest quota for Russia and to let it operate only on the short-term contracts market. The U.S. is using any damning facts, even hearsay and rumours about uranium leaks which cannot be confirmed. The uranium war can affect at least 300,000 people in the former USSR—mainly Russians threatened with the loss of their jobs. Americans, too, would be affected, who rely on the nuclear energy industry. By the way, the U.S., which speaks much about the dangers of uranium ending up in third world dictator regimes, is instigating this from the fledgeling Central Asian countries of the CIS. While the export control in Russia is rather tough, Kyrgyzstan or Uzbekistan may be prepared to sell their uranium to any country if they lose their markets in Europe and America. International pledges would not bar them from it: they have not made any, nor are they members of the IAEA or the London Club of Nuclear Suppliers. The uranium issue only reveals for Russia's fledgling business the way of thinking of their partners "across the Atlantic". We will be willingly helped to graduate from the pre-school of capitalism to high school. After that, we can hardly hope for an enthusiastic attitude: the world markets have been divided without us. We are too busy at the moment with our own crisis to think about tomorrow where, at best we will be blocked on all sides. We will have to use our elbows to get through.

Russian Parliament on Chemical, Biological Arms

'Successor' to U.S.-USSR Accords

LD0807132692 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
1244 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunaitsky]

[Text] Moscow July 8 TASS—Russian parliament on Wednesday adopted a resolution "on Russia's international obligations on chemical and biological weapons". The resolution stipulates that Russia is USSR's legal successor in its obligations on the convention on prohibition of development, production and accumulation of bacteriological (biological) and toxic weapons, on bilateral agreements with the U.S.A. and in its adherence to achieving a global convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons.

The Russian Government was obliged to work out diverse programmes on the destruction of chemical weapons and present them to parliament by September 15.

Reaffirms Chemical Arms Ban

OW0807144592 Moscow *INTERFAX in English*
1311 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From "Diplomatic Panorama"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia's parliament has adopted a resolution on ensuring the fulfilment of the country's international commitments in the area of chemical and biological weapons.

The document reaffirms Russia's adherence to the commitments made under the convention on banning the development, production and accumulation of bacteriological (biological) and toxic weapons and on scrapping them. It also reaffirms devotion to the Soviet-American agreements on control over chemical arms and their scrapping, as well as to the intention to sign a global convention on banning chemical weapons.

The Russian President is recommended to submit to the parliament draft bills on banning the development, production and accumulation of bacteriological (biological) and toxic weapons, and on making government officials accountable for their failure to comply with these commitments.

The parliament found it expedient to make special allocations, also in hard currency, to ensure the fulfilment of Russia's commitments in connection with chemical and biological weapons.

Russia's government is instructed to submit to the parliament before September 15 composite programs for scrapping chemical arms.

Vitaliy Vitebskiy, deputy chairman of the committee on industry and power-engineering, has said that it was decided to allocate in the current year 8 billion rubles for the scrapping of chemical and biological weapons. According to him, this will make it possible to start negotiations with Italy and Germany on the possibility of granting Russia aid in this connection. American aid has already been promised.

Scrapping To Cost 100 Billion Rubles

OW0807151092 Moscow *INTERFAX in English*
1311 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From "Diplomatic Panorama"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia proclaimed its intention to sign a global convention on banning chemical arms and pledged to scrap their stockpiles. The implementation of these commitments is in a critical state, however, said Dr. A. Kuntsevich, chairman of the committee on conventional problems connected with chemical and biological weapons, in his report.

He pointed to the lack of a concrete program or schedule for the scrapping of chemical arsenals and to the absence

of a special industrial base needed for this purpose. "The experimental facility built for this purpose in Chapayevsk is besieged by the public. Local government bodies refuse to authorize the construction of facilities for the scrapping of chemical arms on their soil", he said.

Besides, A. Kuntsevich mentioned difficulties connected with the financing of specialized research centers and "former facilities for the production of chemical arms where work is suspended". This leads to a loss of "unique specialists" experienced in handling toxic substances.

Under the circumstances, the committee led by A. Kuntsevich suggests in accordance with the Russian President's decree of June 12 that a network of plants for scrapping chemical arms should be created step by step.

The committee finds it necessary to resume, as the first step, "limited work at a plant built for the production of chemical arms in order to process (scrap) chemical arsenals with subsequent reconstruction aimed at increasing its capacity". According to committee members, this is the most economical way making it possible for Russia to draw nearer the time when it will begin to fulfil its international commitments.

The committee also believes that, at the same time, it is necessary to ensure "readiness for scrapping" the old toxic substances kept in storage reservoirs in Udmurtia and in Saratov Region. Besides, it is necessary to design a "mobile complex" for scrapping chemical arms and set up a national control center, laboratories and "other organizations for accomplishing conventional tasks".

The committee also calls for taking measures aimed at ensuring social security for those who work at the facilities for scrapping chemical arms, and at improving the living standards of people who reside in the vicinity of such plants.

In his report Dr. A. Kuntsevich estimates that the annual expenses connected with the efforts to scrap chemical weapons might amount to 5 or 10 billion rubles. It is imperative to allocate no less than 1.8 billion rubles for these needs in the current year. As for the overall expenditure connected with the scrapping of chemical weapons, it will make up no less than 100 billion rubles that can be partially compensated by means of converting various chemical arms components into products for civilian needs".

Navy on Salvaging Komsomolets Nuclear Warheads

PM0807143792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
3 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by Yevgeniy Shestakov: "Expedition to Site of Sinking of Nuclear Submarine Komsomolets Over"]

[Text] It will scarcely be possible to raise the nuclear submarine Komsomolets, which sank in 1991 in the

Norwegian sea. This was the conclusion reached by an expedition organized by scientists of the Oceanology Institute and Kurchatov Institute, and also by representatives of the Navy Main Staff. During its 10 days of work the expedition discovered previously unnoticed damage and cracks in the hull of the ship.

Of course, it is still too soon to draw final conclusions, but specialists are already predicting a 90-percent chance that if the submarine were raised to the surface it would split apart and there would be an explosive discharge of radioactive substances into the water. This is almost the final blow to the plan of the Dutch specialists who were proposing to raise the Komsomolets to the surface for \$200 million, but were not guaranteeing that the operation would succeed.

"Today the radiation danger does not threaten the ecosystem around the submarine," Ruben Kosyan, director of the Oceanology Institute Southern Department, believes. "Measurements of background radiation immediately around the hatch containing the nuclear warheads showed no deviations from the norm."

Similar conclusions were reached by specialists from the Norwegian Radiation Hygiene Institute, who conducted experiments independently of our scientists.

It is too soon to feel reassured, however. According to specialists' estimates, destruction of the titanium casing of the nuclear charges will begin to occur from 1995. But, whereas even a year ago it would have been necessary to construct a sarcophagus like that at Chernobyl in order to protect them, the military now have "know-how" on their side—polymers that swell in water and create an impenetrable casing immediately around the warheads.

R. Kosyan also rejected the possibility that nuclear warheads from the Komsomolets might fall into the hands of extremist organizations.

"Only five submersibles—three in the West and two in Russia—are (theoretically) capable of raising them from a depth of 1,720 meters (and only theoretically)," he said. "However, taking all the technical and natural factors into account, it is unrealistic to recover nuclear weapons from the Komsomolets."

Russo-German Ties, Chemical Arms Ban Eyed

LD3006124492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1012 GMT 30 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Moscow June 30 TASS—Deputy Russian Foreign Minister Fyodor Shelov-Kovedyayev received on Monday German Ambassador Klaus Blech at the latter's request. ITAR-TASS learned from the Russian Foreign Ministry on Tuesday. The ambassador handed over a personal message from German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel to Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev about the conclusion in Geneva of the work on the draft

convention on comprehensive ban of chemical weapons. There was an exchange of opinions on problems of chemical disarmament, stepping up of all-round Russo-German cooperation, prospects for the development of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Russo-Ukrainian relations. Other problems were also discussed.

DPRK Urged Not To 'Tempt Fate' Over Inspections

PM0707150592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Jun 92 First Edition p 7

["Commentary" by Sergey Kukhar: "If the United Nations Says 'You Must' But Pyongyang Says 'No'"]

[Text] North Korea has not managed to convince the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that its nuclear program is as pure as the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is the message of a communication from Vienna, where the IAEA headquarters is located: In the opinion of a group of its inspectors recently returned from the DPRK Pyongyang could be concealing a significant quantity of plutonium from the outside world and using its reactor for the production of plutonium-239, the substance needed to create nuclear weapons.

Doubts regarding, so to speak, the "virginity"—that is, the exclusively peaceful character—of the North Korean nuclear program emerged some years ago. However, the persistent demands of the IAEA and certain member countries of the "nuclear club" that they be permitted to satisfy themselves to the contrary have until recently been categorically rejected by Pyongyang. Sometimes with an assumed air of coquetry (what kind of girl do you take me for?), sometimes with pronounced inflexibility.

For understandable reasons this was not to the international community's liking. (Let us recall the case of Iraq, which had thoroughly concealed its nuclear program from all "prying" eyes). Moreover, the stability of the Kim Il-song regime is increasingly in question. So the prospect of discovering one fine day that Pyongyang has gotten hold of its own nuclear bomb appeals to hardly anyone....

Only after the North Koreans had come to understand that, for example, Washington would never enter into rapprochement with them in any guise until the DPRK opened all its "nuclear" doors to IAEA specialists, after Japan had taken a largely similar position, and after, finally, Moscow had also openly declared its concern over Pyongyang's nuclear development projects, did the latter sign the so-called agreement on nuclear guarantees. It was this which allowed the IAEA experts to visit North Korea for the first time.

The DPRK is not indifferent either to the possibility of receiving economic support from its mighty southern neighbor, South Korea. But Seoul has made its relations with Pyongyang directly dependent on its problems with the IAEA being settled.

Arm-twisting is not the best way of winning someone's favor. Love cannot be compelled, as the saying goes. I think that this is also a reason why the DPRK refused to open its arms to visitors from Vienna. Knowing as I do quite a few North Koreans, I can believe that assurances of their good intentions from their lips are more than sufficient. Not sufficient, however, to convince the IAEA of the sincerity of the North Korean leadership concerning its nuclear plans. In the specialists' opinion, true sincerity involves allowing them access to the facilities which interest them on DPRK territory.

A last point. It is well known that North Korea was the first to put forward the idea of turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free peace zone. This proposal lay at the basis of the joint declaration of both Koreas on their future relations. I personally therefore see no reason for Pyongyang's rejection of simultaneous inter-Korean inspections of each other's nuclear facilities and military bases. In the final analysis, the DPRK could also dispel its own doubts concerning its neighbor's intentions.

The goal of special checks, carried out with minimum prior notification, is to prevent efforts to hide devices for manufacturing plutonium-239. There is, true, one further possibility for carrying out snap inspections. But this is the sort of emergency case which presumes UN Security Council sanctions. This is what happened, for instance, during the inspection of the Husayn regime's nuclear potential.

I would like to know how Pyongyang would reply if the world community were to say "you must." Or is it better for it not to tempt fate after all?

UN Chemical Arms Experts To Tour Azerbaijan

To Conduct Biochemical Analysis

LD0407121992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1126 GMT 3 Jul 92

[By AZERINFORM-TASS]

[Text] Baku July 4 TASS—Facts of the use of chemical weapons on the territory of Azerbaijan by Armenian armed formations are to be presented to U.N. experts in the republican Ministries of Defence and Health. The experts arrive here on Saturday afternoon.

A spokesman at the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry told AZERINFORM that the U.N. experts, including two specialists from the United States, one from Switzerland and one from Belgium, will tour the Zangelan, Kubatly, Kelbadjar, and Fizuliy districts of the republic and the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic.

The purpose of the tour is to get acquainted with the local situation, to take samples of the earth, water, soils and air for biochemical analyses. Experts are to meet

with residents of Azerbaijani populated areas and servicemen and, if necessary, will take the laboratory reports of the wounded for research.

The experts are also to be provided with documents testifying to facts of the use of chemical weapons by Armenian armed formations in areas of combat action.

To Check Armenia's Chemical Arms Use

NC0207071892 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English
1630 GMT 1 Jul 92

[Text] Baku 01.07.92 (ASSA-IRADA)—Armenians used chemical weapons again. This happened during the shelling of Jerrail Province, lower Karabakh, June 28-29, ASSA-IRADA was told by Health Ministry of Azerbaijan. The number of casualties is being specified. The UN experts on chemical weapons are to arrive in Baku by the end of the week to confirm facts of repeated use of chemical weapons.

Byelarus Advises Caution in N-Arms Withdrawal

LD0807181792 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English
1710 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From the "Military News" section]

[Text] [No dateline as received]—The Byelarus deputy defence minister: Byelarus should not be in a hurry to proclaim its non-nuclear status and withdraw strategic nuclear weapons as the developments in the CIS are unpredictable possession of nuclear weapons will be instrumental in Byelarus achieving the situation when during the first period of its independence taking root it will be reckoned with in the world, the deputy defence minister, Colonel-General Petr Chaus also said in an interview to the Byelarusian newspaper ZVYAZDA of July 7. According to Chaus, there has never been a situation when a state should renounce nuclear weapons, on the contrary, everybody is seeking to have them. Speaking on Byelarus' neutrality, Petr Chaus said, in particular, that Austria, Sweden and a number of other neutral states, following the disintegration of the Warsaw Treaty, seek to give up pure neutrality and there is a lot of sense in this kind of policy, he said.

Georgia's Shevardnadze on CIS Nuclear Strategy

OW0307104792 Moscow INTERFAX in English
0959 GMT 3 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Excerpts] From now on we can speak with a greater confidence that Georgia will become a worthy partner of Russia on the international arena, the Chairman of the Georgian State Council Eduard Shevardnadze declared making comments on the signing of the protocol on establishing Russian-Georgian diplomatic relations in a TV address on July 2. [passage omitted]

In the morning on Friday the representatives of the Defense Ministries of 11 republics of the former USSR are discussing 12 issues at the session of the CIS Defense Ministers' Council in Moscow. These issues are concerned with the systems of warning on a missile attack and control of the space, with the composition of the strategic forces, with the council of the collective security, with the military doctrine and nuclear strategy of the CIS countries, with the air defense system, etc. The representatives of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Byelarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tadjikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Ukraine are participating in this meeting. A Georgian representative is present at the meeting as a supervisor. A representative of Moldova is absent. [passage omitted]

Ukraine's Kravchuk Speaks in Brussels on N-Arms

Promises To Destroy Arsenal

AU0707194092 Paris AFP in English 1829 GMT
7 Jul 92

[Text] Brussels, July 7 (AFP)—Ukraine intends to destroy all of its nuclear arsenal as quickly as possible, Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk said here Tuesday [7 July].

Speaking briefly to journalists during his visit to Brussels, Kravchuk said: "If we have the chance to liquidate our nuclear arms before the allotted time, we will do it with pleasure.

"Let me repeat, that we shall not be moving these arms elsewhere, but destroying them," he added.

Belgian Foreign Minister Willy Claes said he had spoken with the Ukrainian president about the importance of conforming with the START treaty agreed to by the United States and former Soviet Union on reducing strategic nuclear arms.

Kravchuk's comments come in the wake of criticism that Ukraine has shown some ambiguity in presenting itself as a nuclear power while agreeing to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

At a CIS summit in Moscow on Monday [6 July], Ukraine annoyed other members of the Community of Independent States by insisting on "administrative" control over strategic forces rather than handing them over to central control.

To Ratify Treaty on Reduction

PM1007131592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
9 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 5

[Report by Maksim Gan: "Ukraine Does Not Intend To Delay Elimination of Nuclear Weapons"]

[Text] Ukraine's position on the question of the withdrawal of nuclear weapons to Russian territory remains

unchanged. But nuclear warheads must where possible be destroyed on the spot, Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk, who is on a working visit to Belgium, told journalists.

According to the president, Ukraine is "pleased" to eliminate its nuclear weapons earlier than planned and the Ukrainian parliament will soon ratify the treaty on the reduction of strategic arms with Russia, Kazakhstan, and Byelarus. In Brussels Kravchuk also intends to discuss with NATO representatives the possibility of developing relations, since NATO "now plays a political rather than a military role."

To all appearances Kravchuk's visit to Belgium is proceeding in a supremely fruitful way. The Ukrainian president was the only one of the leaders of the CIS countries to attend the international conference on antisemitism in Brussels. Kravchuk not only announced the imminent opening of a Ukrainian embassy in Israel but also set out Ukraine's position on the question of protecting the rights of national minorities, in particular of the Jewish population, whose position in the former USSR republics is causing increasing alarm among the world public. The president said that his country has granted national minorities more rights than any other CIS state. Ukraine has chosen the path of building a democratic and not a strictly ethnic states and that is a source of stability and interethnic consensus, Kravchuk said.

A declaration on the principles of mutual relations between Belgium and Ukraine and a protocol on the free movement of diplomats were also signed in Brussels,

which opens the way to the conclusion of an interstate treaty between the two countries. In the very near future a group of Belgian experts and specialists will go to Ukraine and will study the state of affairs and elaborate a specific plan of cooperation.

Tomsk Seen as Storage Site for Nuclear Warheads

LD0207215792 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 2 Jul 92

[Video report by A. Pelta from Tomsk; from the "Visti" newscast]

[Text] Five days after a visit by an American delegation, it has become obvious that representatives of NATO and the U.S. Government were worried not as much with problems of reforms in Tomsk as with the construction of a nuclear cellar in our territory. In essence, it will be a unique installation—a 41-hectare underground bunker where containers with warheads will be stored. The Americans have undertaken the financing of the construction. Additional investments will be made in the economy, the social sphere, and in new working sites. It seems the president's spokesman should not try to evade the fact that a nuclear cellar for the oblast is a magic wand in the post-perestroika collapse. But, you and I might be worried by only one question: Will there not be too many atoms in Tomsk with plutonium nuclear charges that keep splitting for as many as 24,000 years? However, the Russian Government has not yet made a decision on the burial site.

[Announcer] Another candidate is Chelyabinsk.

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